

Message Text

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TAGS/ PGOV, NL

SUBJECT: NEW DUTCH GOVERNMENT: MINISTERS OF JUSTICE,
INTERIOR, EDUCATION, SOCIAL AFFAIRS, CULTURE,
RECREATION AND SOCIAL WORK, AND MINISTER
WITHOUT PORTFOLIO FOR SCIENTIFIC POLICY

REF: THE HAGUE 2176

1. MINISTER OF JUSTICE AND FIRST DEPUTY PM ANDREAS VAN AGT,
KVP, 42. HOLD- OVER FROM BIESHEUVEL GOVT. LONG- TIME PRO-
PONENT OF CONFESSIONAL- LEFT WING COOPERATION. THUS EMINENTLY
PERSONA GRATA WITH LEFT WING. VAN AGT SERVED AS
CO- INFORMATEUR AFTER BURGER RETURNED HIS MANDATE. WORK
DOCUMENT PREPARED BY VAN AGT AND ARP COLLEAGUE PROF.
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ALBEDA PROVIDED FACE- SAVING DEVICE BOTH LEFT WING AND CONFESSIONALS NEEDED TO FINALLY GET NEW COALITION ON THE TRAKCKS. EARLY 1972 DECISION TO RELEASE THREE NAZI WAR CRIMINALS IMPRISONED IN BRED A ALMOST LED TO FALL OF FIRST BIESHEUVEL GOVT. DECION RESCINDED. VAN AGT HAD TROUBLE WITH JUSTICE MINISTRY BUREAUCRACY, ESPECIALLY HIS SECRETARY GENERAL, BUT THIS NOW APPEARS RESOLVED. UNDER VAN AGT, JUSTICE HAS TAKEN MORE RELAXED VIEW THAN MINISTRY OF HEALTH ON NARCOTICS QUESTION. JUSTICE HAS BEEN PUSHING PARTIAL DECRIMINALIZATION OF CERTAIN ASPECTS OF DRUG USE. HAS NOT BEEN PARTICULARLY HELPFUL TO US INTERESTS BY DUTCH STANDARDS.

2. MINISTER OF INTERIOR W. F. DE GAAY FORTMAN, APR, 62. PROFESSOR OF LAW AND FORMER RECTOR FREE UNIVERSITY OF AMSTERDAM. ARP FLOOR LEADER FIRST CHAMBER, CHAMBERLAIN TO QUEEN. PILLAR OF DUTCH ESTABLISHMENT. PERENNIAL CANDIDATE FOR MINISTER WHO FINALLY ACCEPTED AT AGE 62. HIS DECION PARTICIPATE IN DEN UYL GOVT PART OF " BREAKTHROUGH" WHICH LED TO EVENTUAL SUCCESS BURGER FORMATION EFFORT. CLOSE TIES TO PROTESTANT TRADE UNION (CNV). FATHER OF RADICAL LEADER BAS DE GAAY FORTMAN, WILL PROBABLY BE IN CHARGE REALM AFFIARS. STRONG PROPONENT OF EARLY INDEPENDENCE FOR SURINAM AND ANTILLES. WITH DE GAAY FORTMAN AT INTERIOR AND VAN AGT IN JUSTICE, CONFESSIONALS WILL STILL HAVE MOST IMPORTANT MINISTRIES IN TERMS POLITICAL PARTRONAGE, E. G. APPOINTMENT JUDGES, MAYORS, ETC.

3. MINISTER OF EDUCATION J. A. VAN KEMENADE, LABOR, 36. CATHOLIC INTELLECUAL, PROFESSOR AT CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF NIJMEGEN. CHAIRMAN OF LABOR PARTY RESEARCH BUREAU. UNION MEMBER. MEMBER OF SOCIAL ECONOMIC COUNCIL. THESIS WAS ON EFFECTS OF DE- CONFESSIONALIZATION ON CATHOLIC EDUCATION. MAIN PRIORITIES WILL BE BASIC EDUCATION AND EDUCATION PROBLEMS OF WORKING YOUTH. MARRIED, THREE CHILDREN.

4. MINISTER OF SOCIAL AFFAIRS, JACOBUS (JAAP) BOERSMA, ARP, 43. HOLD- OVER FROM BIESHEUVEL GOVT. OPPONENT OF WAGE AND PRICE CONTROLS. HIS BATTLE WITH DS'70' S DE BRAUW HELPED PRECIPITATE CABINET CRISIS WHICH LED TO COLLAPSE OF FIRST BIESHEUVEL GOVT AND NEW ELECTIONS. FORMER TRADE UNIONIST (CNV). BROUGHT INTO BIESHEUVEL CABINET SINCE BIESHEUVEL FEARED HIS OPPOSITION IN SECOND CHAMBER. FAVORITE OF TRADE UNIONS. HELPED SECURE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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" CENTRAL ACCORD" VOLUNTARY GUIDELINES ON WAGES AND PRICES AMONG MANAGEMENT, UNIONS AND GOVERNMENT IN NOVEMBER 1973. BOERSMA' S DECISION TO SERVE IN DEN UYL GOVT HELPED FORMATUEUR BURGER ACHIEVE " BREAKTHROUGH" HE NEEDED TO BRING LEFT WING- CONFESSIONAL GOVT TO POWER. BRANDED AS " TRAITOR" BY BIESHEUVEL AND RIGHT WING OF ARP. COULD BE CABINET' S STRONG MAN IN TERMS DOMESTIC SOCIAL- ECONOMIC POLICY ESPECIALLY GIVEN LACK OF

GOVERNMENT EXPERIENCE OF HIS NEW COLLEAGUES IN " SOCIAL ECONOMIC
TRIAN
GLE"

5. MINISTER OF CULTURE, RECREATION AND SOCIAL WORK (CRM),
HENRI VAN DOORN, RADICAL, 58. CHAIRMAN OF KRO (CATHOLIC
BROADCASTING ORGANIZATION) SINCE 1961. FORMER CHAIRMAN OF
KVP. ONE OF FOUR MEMBERS OF KVP WHO FORMED PPR IN 1968.
REPUTATION AS FIRST RATE ADMINISTRATOR. HAD INDICATED HE IS
INTENT ON MASTERING NOTORIOUSLY DIFFICULT CRM BUREAUCRACY.
REFUSED SERVICES OF TV OMBUDSMAN MARCEL VAN DAM AS HIS
STATE SECRETARY. NO DESIRE TO BE OVERSHADOWED BY HIS
DEPUTY LIKE HIS PREDECESSOR . THIS HAS RUFFLED LABOR PARTY
FEATHERS. MARRIED, FIVE CHILDREN. SPORTS ENTHUSIAST.

6. MINISTER WITHOUT PORTFOLIO FOR SCIENTIFIC POLICY, F. H. TRIP,
RADICAL, 51. POLITICAL UNKNOWN, EVEN IN HIS OWN PARTY. ARMY OFFICER
IN INDONESIA UNTIL 1951. PRIVATE INDUSTRY FROM 1951-1972.
DIRECTOR OF SPICE COMPANY. LEFT PRIVATE BUSINESS FOR CAREER
IN PUBLIC SERVICE IN 1972. APPOINTED CHAIRMAN OF BOARD OF
DIRECTORS OF UTRECHT UNIVERSITY. REPUTATION AS GOOD MANAGER.
MIDDENDORF

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